VIPs and also propose to withdraw the Black Cat Commandos of national Security Guard; and

(b) if so, by when it is proposed to be revamped and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Action is being taken to revamp the arrangements in a manner that security requirements are not compromised.

Bomb Blast in a Local Train

853. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a powerful bomb blasted in a local passenger train near Bhatinda, Punjab on the 8th July, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the casualty/injury resulted therein;

(c) whether any millitant outfit has claimed the responsibility of the bomb blast;

(d) what action Government have taken to book the culprits and the details of compensaion paid to the victim of the blast; and

(e) whether Government have come to any conclusion about the guilty people involved in the familiar bomb blast incidents, so far took place during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the blast at Lehra Khana Railway Station in Bhatinda, as many as 38 persons were killed while 67 were injured.

(c) and (d) No militant outfit has claimed responsibility for this blast. However, investigating team for Bhatinda train blast and Bagha Purana shoot out which took place on 9.7.97, have made a major break through with arrest of one Buta Singh, an active conspirator aligned with International Sikh Youth Federation led by Pakistan based terrorist Lakhbir Singh Rode. The prime Accused Bhupinder Singh Bhinda R/o Mari Mustafa PS Bagha Purana Distt. Moga is absconding in this case.

Compensation in such cases is given by the State Government.

(e) Bomb blasts of last 6 months fall in two patterns. Low intensity blasts are the handiwork of certain Pak based muslim fundamentalist cadres while the high intensity blasts have been carried out by subverseves and left over Punjab militants under the instigation of Pak ISI. Several suspects have been arrested and investigations are being done by the concerned State Police.

Road Accident Deaths in Delhi

854. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people killed in road accidents in Delhi during 1997 so far and how does it compare with the killed during the last three years in the same period in Delhi/other metropolitan and Mega cities;

(b) the reasons for more road accidents in Delhi than other cities in the country and the steps taken to overcome those cause; and

(c) whether bad roads is one of the causes for road accidents/deaths in Delhi, if so, by when the roads whould be repaired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Delhi Police have reported that during 1997 upto 15.7.1997, 1134 persons were